“DECODING THE RENAISSANCE: 500 YEARS OF CODES AND CIPHERS”

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30
12:30–2pm
SOS 250

Please RSVP to vsri@usc.edu by 9/28

The Renaissance, the first great age of mass communication, was also when the art of secret writing came into its own. The new science of codes and ciphers produced some of the period’s most brilliant inventions, most beautiful books, and most enduring legacies. The Renaissance, in turn, provided the inspiration for twentieth-century “cryptanalysis,” the study of secret writing systems developed during World War II. Sherman will discuss the visual culture of codes and ciphers from the Renaissance to the twentieth century and the ways in which universities and museums interact as sites for scholarship and pedagogy on visual and material culture.

Co-sponsored by the USC-Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute, Visual and Material Culture Seminar